

### **ABSTRACT**

A system and method of validating signals and detecting signal leakage in a cable communications includes the steps of a) tuning a radio frequency receiver to a carrier frequency of a selected RF channel, b) measuring a signal level of the carrier frequency, c) off-tuning the receiver by a predetermined offset, d) measuring a signal level of the off-tuned carrier frequency, e) obtaining a signal level difference between the signal level of the carrier frequency and the signal level of the off-tuned carrier frequency to determine if interference exists, f) declaring an interference condition if the signal level difference is less than a predetermined difference amount, and g) providing an indication of the signal level of the carrier frequency to permit a determination of whether a signal leakage condition exists.

094536.07604